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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/809,405

03/26/2004

Mu-Kai Chou

BHT/3111-445

7544

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04/21/2006

BRUCE H. TROXELL

SUITE 1404

5205 LEESBURG PIKE

FALLS CHURCH, VA 22041

EXAMINER

LEE, CHRISTOPHER E

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2112

DATE MAILED: 04/21/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/809,405	CHOU, MU-KAI	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Christopher E. Lee	2112	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 March 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 6-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 10-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 6-9 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 29 March 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Receipt Acknowledgement

1. Receipt is acknowledged of the Amendment filed on 29th of March 2006. Claims 1 and 6 have been amended; claims 2-5 have been canceled; and claims 10-14 have been newly added since the Non-Final Office Action was mailed on 14th of October 2005. Currently, claims 1 and 6-14 are pending in this Application.

Claim Objections

2. Claims 1 and 10 are objected to because of the following informalities:

The Claims 1 and 10 recite the subject matter "the power cord" in line 7, respectively. However, it has not been specifically clarified in the claims 1 and 10, respectively. Therefore, the Examiner presumes that the term "the power cord" could be considered as --a power cord-- in light of the specification since it is not defined in the claims.

Appropriate corrections are required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 10-12 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Lin [US 2004/0201952 A1].

Referring to claim 10, Lin discloses a PC CardBus structure (i.e., PCMCIA card converter connector 20 in Fig. 1) arranged on a PC CardBus (i.e., PCMCIA card bus; See page 1, paragraph [0002]), wherein a body of the PC CardBus (i.e., PC Card casing 21 of Fig. 1) has a connection port (i.e., PCMCIA connector interface 231 of Fig. 1) on one side thereof to connect to an electronic device (i.e., computer; See page 1, paragraph [0007]) and has an outer body on the other side (i.e., connector casing 22 of Fig. 1), the outer body (i.e., said connector casing) comprising :

- an end with at least one plug-in port (i.e., front portion of PC card having A-type USB connector socket 24, IEEE 1394 connector 24, and B-type USB connector socket 26 in Fig. 1) for receiving at least one peripheral (See paragraph [0025]); and
- a power port (i.e., power supply socket 27 of Fig. 1) located on a bump at the outer body of the PC CardBus (i.e., a bump at said connector casing of said PCMCIA card bus), the power port being disposed inwardly^{*} from opposite lateral[†] sides of the outer body (i.e., said power supply socket being disposed beneath the surface from opposite side relating to the side of the outer body; See Fig. 2) so that a power cord (i.e., direct current power cable; See page 2, paragraph [0026]) will not interfere with connection cables of other peripherals (i.e., connection cables for interfacing said USB and IEEE 1394 peripherals) when plugging in (in fact, said connection cables should not be interfered with said direct current power cable in light of the locations of the sockets in Fig. 1).

Referring to claim 11, Lin teaches

^{*} "inwardly"_{adv} being defined as "1:in the innermost being 2 a:beneath the surface b:to oneself" by Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary 10th edition

[†] "lateral"_{adj} being defined as "1:of or relating to the side 2:situated on, directed toward, or coming from the side 3:extending from side to side 4:produced with passage of breadth around the side of a construction formed with the tongue" by Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary 10th edition

- the bump of the outer body (i.e., a bump at connector casing 22 in Fig. 1) has an extending trench (i.e., terminal guiding hole on upper connector casing 221 of Fig. 2) capable of providing guidance of the power cord terminal (i.e., direct current power terminal; See page 2, paragraph [0026]) while plugging in (actually, said direct current power terminal is guided through said terminal guiding hole toward power supply socket 27 of Fig. 2 while plugging in).

Referring to claims 12 and 14, Lin teaches

- the electronic device (i.e., computer; See page 1, paragraph [0007]) is a notebook computer, which is a PC (See page 2, paragraph [0019]).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lin [US 2004/0201952 A1] as applied to claims 10-12 and 14 above, and further in view of Fang et al. [US 2005/0168925 A1; hereinafter Fang].

Referring to claim 13, Lin discloses all the limitations of the claim 13, except that does not teach the electronic device is a tablet PC.

Fang discloses a separable and foldable tablet PC assembly (See Abstract), wherein

- an electronic device (i.e., Tablet PC assembly 1 in Fig. 2) is a tablet PC (i.e., Table PC 4 of Fig. 2).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have substituted said electronic device (i.e., said notebook computer), as disclosed by Lin, by said electronic device (i.e., said Tablet PC assembly), as disclosed by Fang, for the advantage of providing a slate-like tablet PC with a separate data-inputting device, in which said slate-like tablet PC is handy and portable when used independently, and is foldable with the data-inputting device as is a convertible PC (See Fang, page 1, paragraph [0009]).

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 1 and 6-9 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the claim 1 objection under minor informality, set forth in this Office action.

8. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

With respect to claim 1, the claim limitations are deemed allowable over the prior art of record as the prior art fails to teach or suggest that a PC CardBus structure arranged on a PC CardBus having an interface of the serial ATA plug-in port.

The claims 6-9 are dependent claims of the claim 1.

Response to Arguments

9. Applicants' arguments with respect to newly added claims 10-14 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

10. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher E. Lee whose telephone number is 571-272-3637. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30am - 5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rehana Perveen can be reached on 571-272-3676. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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Final Office Action

Christopher E. Lee
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2112

CEL/

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christopher E. Lee". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'C' and a stylized 'E'.